

# OLD TOWN NEWS

CITY EVENTS, CITY COUNCIL, DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES,  
& MUNICIPAL CODE INFORMATION

WINTER 2016  
VOLUME 39, ISSUE 4

UNION GAP  
1883

Por favor llame 248-0432 para obtener información en español



## 13th Annual UNION GAP OLD TOWN CHRISTMAS PARADE

Union Gap, WA



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...DECEMBER 11 AT 6PM

Parade starts at the Peppermint Stick Drive-In  
and goes North on Main Street to the Sear's Valley Mall parking lot.

**FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!!!**

First Baptist Church will again be hosting the **Cocoa-n-Coffee Meet & Greet**  
in the Sears Valley Mall Parking lot. Great safe place to have photos taken with the floats/trucks!

Pick up your entry forms at Union Gap City Hall. Entry form deadline December 7, 2016



## UNION GAP RETAIL CONTINUES TO EXPAND

Union Gap proudly welcomed Men's Warehouse to the community in mid-September. The national chain offers men's clothing and formalwear rentals and is located in the Valley Mall. Men's Warehouse is based in Houston and has more than 700 stores in the USA.

Party City, a nationwide party supply store opened in early November. The Rockaway, NJ based retailer now has over 900 Party City stores in the USA and Puerto Rico. It is located at 17 E. Valley Mall Blvd on the former site of the Mercy 6-Plex property. They are the largest retailer of party goods in North America. The store carries a large display of themed party supplies, holiday decorations and costumes.





# SNOW AND ICE CAN BE CHALLENGING

Here are some helpful tips for our  
Union Gap residents & business owners



- The Union Gap Public Works Department will sand all major intersections, bridges, overpasses, and access streets to schools.

- Snow will be plowed in a manner that minimizes traffic obstructions.

- Don't throw snow from your sidewalk or driveway onto city street. Please read our Union Gap City ordinance:

*(Ord. 2072 § 1, 1998) No person shall cause snow or ice to be placed in any public street, alley, sidewalk or public way; provided, that this section shall not apply to Union Gap town employees performing the regular course of their duties. Violation of this section shall be a civil Infraction with a penalty of one hundred dollars.*

- Please help us by not pushing snow into a driveway, or along a parked car on the street. Our city crews work hard to keep streets passable.

- Shovel your snow to the right of your driveway into your yard and not into city street, this will avoid having snow covering your driveway from the city plow.

All calls regarding snow removal and/or ice control, other than those associated with accidents or emergencies should be directed to the Public Works Department Office  
(509) 225-3524

## Thanks

to everyone who participated in the **Union Gap Venues Open House** on Nov 10th, the attendance was great and there was a steady stream of people for the 4 hours of the event! Congratulations to our prize package winners Fionna J, Roberta L. and Gene P! Thank you also to the participating venues – Ahtanum Youth Park Venues, The Central WA Ag Museum, The Vine Venue & Best Western Plus Ahtanum Inn! We also appreciate the businesses that supplied information and/or samples and prize package items including Los Hernandez Tamales, Catering Creations by Toni, The Blossom Shop, Mill Lane Winery, Memory Montage Photography, KCJ Jazz Co, Famous Dave's BBQ, El Porton, Twigs, The Pepp'r mint Stick, Liberty Bottleworks, and a beautiful display of Vis-à-vis & wagon by Yakima Valley Carriage Company. It was such a success that we are planning another one early 2017. Details will be listed on [visituniongap.com](http://visituniongap.com) when the date is set.

## We are looking at the potential to bring the Library back to Union Gap.

The biggest question is... ***Do citizens want the Library to return to Union Gap?***

How do guests use the library?

Is it for Research?

Checking out books for leisure reading?

Internet or Wifi access?

How many houses have computers & internet?

Do our residents know you can check out a book on line?

These are topics we are exploring and we want citizens to let us know what they would like to see done. Councilman Mark Carney and Deputy Mayor Julie Schilling co-chair the committee. Maralyn Killorn and Tina Hull (Union Gap School retired librarian) are the residences serving on the committee. The committee has an opening for one person.

If you're interested, or have comments, please email **Deputy Mayor Julie Schilling** at: [julie.schilling@uniongapwa.gov](mailto:julie.schilling@uniongapwa.gov)





## PLEASE REPORT ANY INOPERABLE STREET LIGHT TO THE PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE (509) 225-3524

To help expedite the repair, it would be helpful to provide the address closest to the pole and pole number. You may also call Pacific Power of Yakima (509) 575-6005 to report street light outage or go online to: [www.pacificpower.net](http://www.pacificpower.net)

## DO YOU HAVE ANY YARD WASTE QUESTIONS?

Please call Union Gap Public Works Department: (509) 225-3524

## GARBAGE RATES

On November 15, 2016 the Board of Yakima County Commissioners approved a recommendation from the Solid Waste Advisory Committee to increase disposal fees at all Yakima County Landfills and Transfer Stations.

The rates have increased from \$32.00 to \$34.00 per ton resulting in a 6.3% increase in the City's tip fees at the landfills and will go into effect February 1, 2017. The County's decision to increase disposal fees may also impact the City's collection rates. It is currently uncertain as to what the impacts will be to our customers; however, the City Council will be addressing this issue.

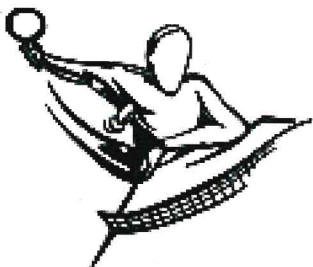
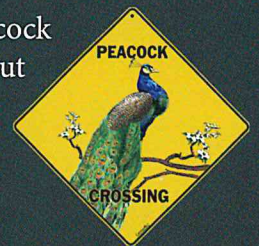
Please feel free to contact Public Works & Community Development Director Henne at 509.225.3524 if you have any questions.



## WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU SAW A PEACOCK?

A frequent Union Gap visitor was quite excited when he saw a peacock after years and years of driving by the Peacock Crossing sign without ever seeing one. We'd love to see your photos also. But please - if taking a photo, please pull over to a safe area!

Email your photo to: [ugfrontoffice@cityofuniongap.gov](mailto:ugfrontoffice@cityofuniongap.gov)



## YAKIMA TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The Yakima Table Tennis Club has grown thanks to all the people that have joined us in the past couple of months and it's more fun than ever! We continue to invite all interested players to join the fun in Union Gap! All levels of ping pong play are welcome from Beginner to Competitive. A nationally ranked player and coach attends the sessions - offering to help you improve your game! The group is open from ages 12 and up (Only ages 12+ at the sessions please, and 12-15 must be accompanied by adult). Cost is only \$5 per player per night (first night free). No paddles? No problem, we have extras. Currently meeting every Tuesday from 7-10PM at the Activities Center at the Ahtanum Youth Park and some Thursdays - please find us on Facebook for schedule changes. No dues or club to join - play when you can! Ping Pong is the #1 brain sport and a perfect cold weather activity so come and play!







## WELCOME TO UNION GAP

The City of Union Gap would like to give a warm welcome to Cristina Galvan who was hired on October 10th as the new Senior Center Liaison. Cristina comes to us from working 25+ years in the field of education. She held many professional roles in the levels of K-12, higher education and her latest role was at the Educational Service District 105. Cristina also owns Petra's Catering. Petra's is part of the Yakima Farmer's Market and caters to community, private and public special occasions and events. Petra's was recently chosen as a caterer for the Capitol Theatre and 4th Street Theatre of Yakima. Cristina is a very caring and wonderful person who has already enhanced the senior program with her creativity and knowledge. We are excited to have her join our city!

## SENIOR CENTER NEWS

### DONATIONS

The senior center meets many of its needs through community donations. Residents and businesses are encouraged to provide monetary or item donations to our center. Monetary donations are utilized for member and/or center needs related to wellness, socialization and nutrition. Throughout the year we also collect donations for our annual bazaars; i.e., new or excellent condition housewares, clothing, furniture, outdoor/indoor home items & much more.

### VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - hours vary. Many creative and fun volunteer opportunities (kitchen volunteers must obtain a food handler's card), be clean, detail oriented and able to get along well with people. All ages are invited to volunteer!

Any help you can give would be appreciated!

Contact Cristina Galvan at (509) 248-2668 for more information

## CITY OF UNION GAP SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER WEEKLY ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY	TIME	ACTIVITY
MONDAY	10-11am 11:30am-12:30pm	Stretch & Exercise Lunch
TUESDAY	9-11am 11:30am-12:30pm	Penny Bingo Lunch
WEDNESDAY	TBD Call Cristina for details (509) 248-2668	
THURSDAY	9-11am 11:30am-12:30pm 11am-3pm	Penny Bingo Lunch Poker
FRIDAY	10-11am 11:30am-12:30pm	Penny Bingo Lunch

**FREE HOLIDAY SHUTTLE**

For details call 574.8000

**Black Friday**  
8am to 10pm

**Nov 25<sup>th</sup> to Dec 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Friday & Saturday**  
3pm to 10pm

Union Gap  
**TRANSIT**

**509.574.8000**

cityofuniongap.com/transit

All Buses Are ADA Accessible & (NO TIPPING)



# OUT OF SIGHT...OUT OF MIND

The Holiday Season is a fantastic time for gatherings with family and friends; the Union Gap Police Department wants to remind you to stay vigilant about your safety and security. Each year we respond to several burglaries and car prowls directly related to the Holiday Season.

In the hustle and bustle we sometimes forget to keep an eye on our belongings. When shopping, please remember to lock your doors and don't leave anything in plain sight. Car prowlers are looking for the easy theft. Place your recently purchased packages in the trunk or under a privacy cover in your vehicle. If you need to deposit several items in your car but want to continue shopping, please move to a different parking area. Thieves will watch the parking lots during the holidays for people putting merchandise in their trunks. If you leave the vehicle where it is and continue to shop, they will break into your trunk after you go back into the stores and steal the recently purchased items.

Christmas trees are a wonderful tradition and some want their friends and neighbors to see how beautifully they are decorated. If your tree is visible to anyone passing by, make sure any presents stacked under the tree are not. It is not uncommon for burglars to notice the presents under the tree and break in to steal them when the residents are not home.

If you are going to be away for the holidays' please let us know. Call the front desk and make an "Extra Patrol" request.

If you notice anything suspicious or have any questions please don't hesitate to call the Union Gap Police Department at **248-0430**.

**Merry Christmas!**



**We wish you and your family a safe, happy and peaceful festive season.**

From your Union Gap City Council and Employees

**The City of Union Gap** is updating its Comprehensive Plan in accordance with the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) governed by RCW 36.70A. Comprehensive Plans establish policies for community growth and development for the next 20 years. Most jurisdictions in the state are required to adopt a Comprehensive Plan consistent with the GMA and to update their plan every eight years.

Updating the Comprehensive Plan is a collaborative and arduous process that will start this year and continue into next year. There is a tentative schedule for completing the remaining work. Public participation is a key component of this effort. A Public Participation Plan has been created for two purposes. Firstly, to identify potential stakeholders and invite their participation in the planning process, and secondly, to guide public participation efforts throughout the process to ensure early and continuous involvement in decision-making. Efforts to ensure public participation will continue to evolve throughout the life of the project.

The Planning Commission will be reviewing different aspects of the Comprehensive Plan update during their meetings for the remaining 2016 and into 2017. The planning commission meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month @ 7pm in the City Hall Annex located at 3103 2nd St. For any schedule changes, please visit our website at [www.cityofuniongap.com](http://www.cityofuniongap.com).



CITY OF UNION GAP  
107 W. AHTANUM ROAD  
P.O. BOX 3008  
UNION GAP, WA  
98903-0008

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PERMIT #100

Postal Customer—ECRWSS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### WEBSITES

Published on a quarterly basis to  
keep citizens informed

City Business: [uniongapwa.gov](http://uniongapwa.gov)  
Union Gap Tourism: [visituniongap.com](http://visituniongap.com)  
Xpress Bill Pay: [xpressbillpay.com](http://xpressbillpay.com)

### PHONE DIRECTORY

#### 107 W. AHTANUM ROAD

City Hall	248-0432
Fire	575-6060
Park Reservations	248-0432
Treasurer / Clerk	248-0432
Utility Billing	248-0432
Newsletter	248-9202

#### 3106 FIRST STREET

Building / Planning	575-3638
Code Enforcement	575-3638
Public Works	225-3524

#### 1800 RAINIER PLACE

Animal Control	248-0430
Crime Prevention	457-5927
Police	248-0430

#### 1000 AHTANUM ROAD

Senior Citizen Center	248-2668
Activities Center	575-6448
Barn Rentals	575-6448

#### TOURISM & TRANSIT

Tourism Promoter	575-8770
Union Gap Transit	574-8000
UG Transit TTY	574-8000

### MAYOR & COUNCIL

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Position #1

**Chad Lenz** ~ 965-3364

Position #2

**Mark Carney** ~ 969-6833

Position #3

**Dan Olson** ~ 453-4310

Position #4

**Dave Butler** ~ 452-8631

Position #5

**Dave Matson** ~ 453-3098

Position #6

**Julie Schilling** ~ 453-2446

#### MAYOR / COUNCIL MEMBER

Position #7

**Roger Wentz** ~ 575-3799

### CITY STAFF

*City Manager*  
**Arlene Fisher**  
248-0432

*Director of Public Works &  
Community Development*  
**Dennis Henne**  
225-3524

*Director of Finance &  
Administration*  
**Karen Clifton**  
248-0432

*Police Chief*  
**Greg Cobb**  
248-0430

*City Attorney*  
**Bronson Brown**  
628-4700